MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: Does it attack all alike?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Yes, those who come in contact with people suffering from the skin disease will certainly contract the disease.

PRESIDENT: In Madras it affected all grades of society from the highest to the lowest and certain measures were taken by the Government to prevent its further spread. That did not seem to be of much use. Scabies was contracted by people in all grades of society and it is said that people who returned from Burma brought it.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Will Government make an investigation into the whole question?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Scabies was in existence in this State for a long time.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: With regard to the sudden increase in the incidence?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Sudden increase in the incidence was due to the return of coolies from Assam.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Has bad nutrition anything to do with this disease?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Yes.

MR. J. T. MORAIS (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*): May I know what measures have been taken for bringing down small pox in South Travancore?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Vaccination campaign has been started and domiciliary vaccination is being carried on an intensive scale. About 150 people have to be vaccinated every day by each vaccinater.

MR. J. T. MORAIS: May I know whether the disease is now under control?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Yes, it is under control.

MR. J. T. MORAIS: May I know whether the lack of vitamin A is responsible for the prevalence of scabies.

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: It has not been definitely proved that the deficiency of vitamin A will cause this disease.

PRESIDENT: It is said that vitamin K has something to do with this disease

MR. J. T. MORAIS: Is it a fact that public health work in South Travancore is not being attended to because some vacancies of Sanitary Inspectors have not been filled up?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Some vacancies have not been filled up. The Public Service Commissioner has notified such vacancies but there are no applicants at present.

MR. J. T. MORAIS: Is small pox vaccination not being done properly in South Travancore due to want of sufficient hands?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: That matter will be looked into and more hands will be appointed very soon.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 18,945 under Demand XXVII—Public Health and Sanitation, was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

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DEMAND XXX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 288. Out of this Rs. 160 is required for the appointment of a temporary clerk in the Government Press. In view of the large volume of paper and binding materials expended in the Government Press, the Accountant-General brought to the notice of Government, that it would be desirable to call for a weekly statement to be scrutinised in the Central Printing Office. The Superintendent, Government Press to whom the matter was referred, reported that in view of the large increase of work on account of the printing of copy books, text books and readers recently taken up in the Government Press, it is difficult to prepare the list required by the Accountant-General with the existing hands. He has therefore requested Government for the appointment of a temporary clerk on Rs 25-1-30. The request is reasonable and the House may be pleased to sanction the amount.

The other item of Rs. 120 is required for the appointment of an additional turner in the Government Press. At present seals and stamps required for Government Offices are manufactured in the Government Press. Hitherto this work was being attended to by the existing staff. But now they have to execute an order of 160 stamps and seals required by the several offices. So the Superintendent, Government Press has reported that if an additional turner is appointed he will be able to attend promptly to the orders and clear all the arrears. Government have approved his proposals. With these observations I request that the House may be pleased to sanction this small amount.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 288 under demand XXX—Stationery and Printing—was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE TOWN PLANNING BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): Sir, I rise to present the report of the Select Committee on the Travancore Town Planning Act Amendment Bill and move that the Bill as reported by the Committee be taken into consideration.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I second it.

The motion was put and carried.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that the Bill be passed.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I second it.

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 2 to 4.

The question that clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

The clauses were added to the Bill.

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PREAMBLE AND TITLE.

The question that the Preamble and Title stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

The Preamble and Title were added to the Bill.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that in clause 1 the figures 1120 be inserted.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I second it.

The motion was put and carried.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that the Bill be passed

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I second it.

The motion was put and carried.

THE TRAVANCORE CHITTIES BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Travancore Chitties Bill and move that the Bill as reported by the Committee be taken into consideration.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I second it.

Clause 1.

The question that clause 1 forms part of the Bill was put and carried.

The clause was added to the Bill.

Clause 2.

The question that clause 2 forms part of the Bill was put and carried.

The clause was added to the Bill.

Clause 3.

MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR: Sir, I move that in clause 3 sub clause (4) in line 4 substitute "and" for "or". The word "or" is used to convey the sense of the word "and". When there is a clear and unambiguous expression to convey the meaning it is better that the word "and" is used instead of the word "or". "Discount" means the amount of money or quantity of grain which a prize winner has, under the terms of the Variola to forego for the payment of Veethapalisa, foreman's commission and other expense.". So it is clearly a verbal change. I move that the amendment be accepted by the House.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I oppose the amendment.

MR. JOSEPH VITHAYATHIL: Sir, I also oppose the amendment. The word discount is defined in the Bill thus :—

"Discount means the amount of money or quantity of grain which a prize winner has, under the terms of the variola, to forego for the payment of veethapalisa, foreman's commission or other expenses".

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There need not be necesserily other expenses. There will be other expenses only if it is so provided in the variola. That is the reason why the word "or" is inserted. If the amendment is accepted the words "if any" should also be added at the end. I therefore oppose the amendment.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: I also oppose the amendment. This expression has necessarily to be there. If you change the word "or" the meaning also changes. The wording is meant to apply to all expenses. If the expression is changed it may not apply to all expenses. The Select Committee has considered the matter. So I oppose the amendment.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I oppose the motion. The word "or" is the appropriate word to be used here. All these expenses do not go together. In some cases, there will not be the foreman's commission and in some other cases, there will not be other expenses. Therefore, the proper expression is "or" and not "and." I oppose the amendment.

The amendment was put to vote and lost.

The question that Clause 3 do stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4.

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR: Sir, I move.

"In Clause 4, in the first line, take away the word "of" after "but" and insert the word "not" in its place and in the second line after "(2)" add the word "of."

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: It is a printer's mistake. That can be corrected.

The question that Clause 4 do stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 and 6.

The question that Clauses 5 and 6 do stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

Clauses 5 and 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 7.

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR: Sir, I move:

"Delete the whole of Clause 7 and renumber the following sections accordingly."

In the Chitty Scheme, as revised by the Select Committee, certain chitties which are started with less than Rs. 100 as capital are not included in the proposed enactment. My point is that if all the chitties that are to be started in the State are not to be included in

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[Mr. K. G. Kesavan Nair.]

the Chitties Act, poor and innocent subscribers will have to suffer in future to a great extent. Under this pretext that certain chitties are not included in the Act, people will begin to start chitties with Rs. 100 as capital. Our experience in the State has been that if chitties with Rs. 100 as capital are excluded a number of chitties might be started by a single person, with Rs. 100 as capital. Thus, poor persons who join as subscribers in such chitties will have to suffer and the Chitty foremen will devise several means of cheating and defrauding the subscribers. So, it is not necessary to leave certain classes of chitties outside the purview of the Act. I move this amendment for the consideration of the House.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: I support the amendment. Chitties as such have a definite place in the rural economy of the State. It is not a pure banking concern as is conceived in the bill. It is a mutual benefit effort, or society or something like that, in which people join together and get benefit out of it. In the rural parts, even women join together and conduct chitties. Especially for poor people, whose means are so scanty, it is reasonable and necessary to give some facility for some form of mutual benefit such as chitties below Rs. 100. One of the primary considerations that is urged here, which might weigh with this House is, that a lot of fraud is being committed by foremen who conduct chitties and make a profit for themselves. But that consideration cannot weigh in the case of chitties whose total amount is less than Rs. 100 subscribed and conducted by poor people on personal credit. I may say that in many cases there are women who conduct chitties. To ask them to take out a licence will be rather too hard on them and will put them to trouble. I urge that the rural economy of the state should not be dislocated.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Is Mr. Nataraja Pillai objecting to the conducting of the chitty of an amount which is less than Rs. 100 or to the granting of a licence for conducting such Chitties? Which is the objection.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: My objection is to the granting of a licence with a penalty for Chitties below Rs. 100. Sub-Clause 2 further makes it void and punishable.

MR. JOSEPH VITHAYATHIL (*Member co-opted*): Has the effect of the amendment to be viewed as asking compulsory registration. The mover of the amendment wants it to be registered. If my friend's amendment is to be accepted, those people who are under Rs. 100 would all have to be registered, because this is an enabling provision. If that clause is taken away, all chitties below Rs. 100 will have to be registered. My friend is in fact opposing the amendment.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: Yes, I lost sight of it. I see the difficulty now. Sir, in view of what has now emerged by my friend's question, I may be permitted to move for the deletion of sub-clauses 1 and 2 of clause 7 as it now stands. I feel there is a real difficulty in the motion as tabled now. But there are a lot of people who conduct

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